

mimetics to be a searchable species, etc. These groups are clearly identified in separate claims in the originally filed application (e.g., Claims 8 to 11 for IL-1 antagonists, Claims 12 to 17 for EPO-mimetics). These groups are also clearly and amply supported in the specification (e.g., Table 4 for IL-1 antagonists, Table 5 for EPO-mimetics). The Applicants thus contend that no undue burden of search exists for the elected invention I to include all compounds of Claim 1 having IL-1 antagonist activity.

The Applicants further contend that if the compounds examined (Invention I) are limited to IL-1 inhibitors as described above, then the nucleic acids, vectors and host cells (Invention II) should be examined together with the compounds. A search of the peptide sequences for the compounds would necessarily overlap a search of the nucleotide sequences and vice-versa. Thus, no undue burden of search is obtained by including the IL-1 antagonist polypeptides, nucleic acids, vectors, and host cells in one application.

Conclusion. In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the Office Action, entry of all amendments, and allowance of all claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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